

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the Application and Claim 8 have been canceled without prejudice herein.

Summary of claim amendments

This response amends Claims 1, 11 and 15 to recite features of Claims 8, 14 and 17, respectively, and cancels Claim 8 without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 5, 8, 14 and 17-20.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

Claims 1-4, 9-11 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of Austin (U.S. Patent No. 6,590,303B1), in view of Fisher (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0212966A1) and further in view of Chan (U.S. Patent No. 5,214,550). Claims 6,12 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of Austin, Fisher, Chan and further in view of Lian (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0176935A1). Claims 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of Austin, Fisher, Chan and Lian.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 5, 8, 14 and 17-20. Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-13 and 15-16 and disagree that these claims are un patentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,590,303B1, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0212966A1, U.S. Patent No. 5,214,550 and U.S. Publication No. 2003/0176935A1. However, in the interest of moving this application to issue, Applicants have amended Claim 1, 11 and 15 to include limitations of Claims 8, 14 and 17, respectively, found patentable by the Examiner in the Office Action and cancelled Claim 8 without prejudice, expressly reserving the right to present

these or any other rejected claims or claims directed to other disclosed subject matter in a future divisional or continuation application.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

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February 28, 2006

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February 28, 2006

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